

Moolenaar  
Mooney (WV)  
Murphy (PA)  
Newhouse  
Noem  
Nolan  
Norman  
Nunes  
Olson  
Palmer  
Pearce  
Perry  
Peterson  
Pittenger  
Poliquin  
Polis  
Posey  
Ratcliffe  
Reed  
Roe (TN)  
Rogers (AL)  
Rogers (KY)

Rohrabacher  
Rokita  
Rooney, Francis  
Rooney, Thomas J.  
Rothfus  
Royce (CA)  
Russell  
Sanford  
Scott, Austin  
Sensenbrenner  
Sessions  
Shimkus  
Smith (MO)  
Smith (NE)  
Smith (TX)  
Smucker  
Stewart  
Stivers  
Taylor  
Tenney  
Thompson (PA)

Thornberry  
Tiberi  
Tipton  
Valadao  
Vela  
Walden  
Walker  
Walorski  
Walters, Mimi  
Walz  
Weber (TX)  
Webster (FL)  
Wenstrup  
Williams  
Wilson (SC)  
Wittman  
Yoder  
Yoho  
Young (IA)  
Zeldin

Takano  
Thompson (CA)  
Thompson (MS)  
Titus  
Tonko  
Torres  
Trott  
Tsongas  
Turner

Upton  
Vargas  
Veasey  
Velázquez  
Visclosky  
Wagner  
Walberg  
Waters, Maxine  
Watson Coleman

Welch  
Westerman  
Wilson (FL)  
Womack  
Woodall  
Yarmuth  
Young (AK)

## NOT VOTING—14

Bridenstine  
Costa  
Cummings  
Curbelo (FL)  
DeGette  
Demings  
Garrett  
Huffman  
Lieue, Ted  
Mullin  
Ros-Lehtinen  
Ross  
Scalise  
Wasserman  
Schultz

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).  
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 2320

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. COLLINS of Georgia) having assumed the chair, Mr. MARSHALL, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3354) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2018, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

# REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3354, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2018

Mr. WOODALL, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 115-297) on the resolution (H. Res. 504) providing for further consideration of the bill (H.R. 3354) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2018, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2018

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 500 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 3354.

Will the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) kindly resume the chair.

□ 2323

## IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R.

3354) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2018, and for other purposes, with Mr. MARSHALL (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose earlier today, amendment No. 58 printed in part B of House Report 115-295 by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BABIN) had been disposed of.

## AMENDMENTS EN BLOC NO. 3 OFFERED BY MR.

## CARTER OF TEXAS

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Chairman, pursuant to section 3 of House Resolution 500, as the designee of Chairman FRELINGHUYSEN, I rise to offer en bloc No. 3 as part of the consideration of Division E of H.R. 3354. A list of amendments included in the en bloc is at the desk and has been agreed to by both sides.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendments en bloc.

Amendments en bloc No. 3 consisting of amendment Nos. 61, 62, 64, 65, 67, 68, 69, 72, 73, 79, 82, 86, and 89, printed in part B of House Report Number 115-295, offered by Mr. CARTER of Texas:

## AMENDMENT NO. 61 OFFERED BY MR. KEATING OF MASSACHUSETTS

Page 635, line 9, after the first dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$7,000,000)”.

Page 659, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$7,000,000)”.

Page 661, line 3, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$7,000,000)”.

## AMENDMENT NO. 62 OFFERED BY MR. SWALWELL OF CALIFORNIA

Page 635, line 9, after the first dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$10,000,000)”.

Page 645, line 11, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$10,000,000)”.

## AMENDMENT NO. 64 OFFERED BY MS. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM OF NEW MEXICO

Page 635, line 9, after the first dollar amount insert the following: “(reduced by \$5,000,000)”.

Page 659, line 7, after the dollar amount insert the following: “(increased by \$5,000,000)”.

Page 659, line 19, after the dollar amount insert the following: “(increased by \$5,000,000)”.

## AMENDMENT NO. 65 OFFERED BY MR. HIGGINS OF NEW YORK

Page 635, line 9, after the first dollar amount insert the following: “(reduced by \$1,000,000)”.

Page 669, line 10, after the dollar amount insert the following: “(increased by \$1,000,000)”.

## AMENDMENT NO. 67 OFFERED BY MR. DELANEY OF MARYLAND

Page 635, line 14, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$76,400,000)”.

Page 668, line 6, after the first dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$42,300,000)”.

Page 668, line 13, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$34,100,000)”.

## AMENDMENT NO. 68 OFFERED BY MR. BILIRAKIS OF FLORIDA

Page 635, line 14, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000)”.

Page 643, line 11, after the first dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$5,000,000)”.

## AMENDMENT NO. 69 OFFERED BY MR. PASCRELL OF NEW JERSEY

Page 635, line 14, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$1,000,000)”.

## NOES—246

Adams  
Aderholt  
Aguilar  
Amodel  
Barletta  
Barragan  
Bass  
Beatty  
Bera  
Beyer  
Biggs  
Bishop (GA)  
Blackburn  
Blumenauer  
Blunt Rochester  
Bonamici  
Boyle, Brendan F.  
Brady (PA)  
Brooks (IN)  
Brown (MD)  
Brownley (CA)  
Buchanan  
Bucshon  
Bustos  
Butterfield  
Capuano  
Carbajal  
Cárdenas  
Carson (IN)  
Carter (GA)  
Cartwright  
Castor (FL)  
Castro (TX)  
Chu, Judy  
Cicilline  
Clark (MA)  
Clarke (NY)  
Clay  
Clever  
Clyburn  
Cohen  
Cole  
Collins (NY)  
Connolly  
Conyers  
Cooper  
Correa  
Courtney  
Crawford  
Crist  
Crowley  
Cuellar  
Davis (CA)  
Davis, Danny  
Davis, Rodney  
DeFazio  
Delaney  
DeLauro  
DelBene  
Denham  
DeSaulnier  
Deutch  
Diaz-Balart  
Dingell  
Doggett  
Donovan  
Doyle, Michael F.  
Ellison  
Emmer  
Engel  
Eshoo  
Español  
Esty (CT)

Evans  
Fitzpatrick  
Fleischmann  
Fortenberry  
Foster  
Frankel (FL)  
Frelinghuysen  
Fudge  
Gabbard  
Gallagher  
Galligo  
Gomez  
Gonzalez (TX)  
Gottheimer  
Green, Al  
Grijalva  
Gutiérrez  
Hanabusa  
Harper  
Hastings  
Heck  
Hice, Jody B.  
Higgins (NY)  
Hill  
Himes  
Hoyer  
Jackson Lee  
Jayapal  
Jeffries  
Johnson (GA)  
Johnson, E. B.  
Johnson, Sam  
Jordan  
Joyce (OH)  
Kaptur  
Katko  
Keating  
Kelly (IL)  
Kennedy  
Khanna  
Kihuen  
Kildee  
Kilmer  
King (NY)  
Kinzinger  
Knight  
Krishnamoorthi  
Kuster (NH)  
Lance  
Langevin  
Larsen (WA)  
Larson (CT)  
Latta  
Lawrence  
Lawson (FL)  
Lee  
Levin  
Lewis (GA)  
Lipinski  
LoBiondo  
Loebach  
Lofgren  
Long  
Lowenthal  
Lowe  
Lujan Grisham, M.  
Luján, Ben Ray  
Lynch  
Maloney  
Carolyn B. Maloney, Sean  
Mast  
Matsui  
McCarthy

McCollum  
McEachin  
McGovern  
McHenry  
McNerney  
McSally  
Meadows  
Meeks  
Meng  
Messer  
Mitchell  
Moore  
Moulton  
Murphy (FL)  
Nadler  
Napolitano  
Neal  
Norcross  
O'Halleran  
O'Rourke  
Palazzo  
Pallone  
Panetta  
Pascarelli  
Paulsen  
Payne  
Pelosi  
Perlmutter  
Peters  
Pingree  
Pocan  
Poe (TX)  
Price (NC)  
Quigley  
Raskin  
Reichert  
Renacci  
Rice (NY)  
Rice (SC)  
Richmond  
Roby  
Rosen  
Roskam  
Rouzer  
Roybal-Allard  
Ruiz  
Ruppersberger  
Rush  
Rutherford  
Ryan (OH)  
Sanchez  
Sarbanes  
Schakowsky  
Schiff  
Schneider  
Schrader  
Schweikert  
Scott (VA)  
Scott, David  
Serrano  
Sewell (AL)  
Shea-Porter  
Sherman  
Shuster  
Simpson  
Sinema  
Sires  
Slaughter  
Smith (NJ)  
Smith (WA)  
Soto  
Speier  
Stefanik  
Suozi  
Swalwell (CA)

Page 659, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$1,000,000)”.

Page 661, line 23, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$1,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 72 OFFERED BY MR. KILDEE OF MICHIGAN

Page 640, line 24, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$20,000,000)”.

Page 659, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$20,000,000)”.

Page 660, line 12, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$20,000,000)”.

Page 660, line 15, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$20,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 73 OFFERED BY MR. CORREA OF CALIFORNIA

Page 640, line 24, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$10,000,000)”.

Page 643, line 11, after the first dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$10,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 79 OFFERED BY MR. LATTA OF OHIO

Page 657, line 15, after the dollar amount insert the following: “(increased by \$1) (reduced by \$1)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 82 OFFERED BY MRS. TORRES OF CALIFORNIA

At the end of division E (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. \_\_\_\_\_. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used in contravention of section 235B of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

AMENDMENT NO. 86 OFFERED BY MR. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY OF NEW YORK

At the end of division E (before the short title) insert the following:

SEC. \_\_\_\_\_. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to establish an anchorage on the Hudson River between Yonkers, New York and Kingston, New York.

AMENDMENT NO. 89 OFFERED BY MS. JACKSON LEE OF TEXAS

At the end of division E (before the spending reduction account), insert the following:

SEC. \_\_\_\_\_. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used in contravention of section 44917 of title 49, United States Code.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 500, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD) each will control 10 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. KEATING).

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentlewoman from California, and I also want to thank my colleagues on the other side of the aisle for their support of an amendment that really is relevant right now. In Barnstable County, Massachusetts, a single coordinator for the FEMA community rating system program is helping 11 of the 15 towns invest in a regional level mitigation to bring down flood insurance premiums for the people of Cape Cod.

That coordinator is working to include all 15 towns in the program and help residents achieve flood insurance discounts of up to 15 percent in year 1 alone.

My amendment in this package would fund grants to help towns in

other parts of the country partner together and hire their own regional CRS coordinators. More local governments would be able to mitigate flood risk and lower the cost of premiums for residents in their areas.

Nobody loses under this scenario. We make flood insurance more affordable, we encourage investment in flood mitigation, and because of the cost-saving use of Federal dollars, the CBO reports this amendment will reduce the deficit by \$5 million in 2018. It is such a really important time in our country when we face challenges of major storms and floods.

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased the amendment was included in the en bloc, and I urge my colleagues to support this package.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS), who is my good friend.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of my amendment to add \$5 million to expand the Visa Security Program which will fund two more high-risk visa security posts in the most volatile parts of the world.

The global threat of radical Islamic extremism is very real and requires a robust vetting system to ensure those seeking to do us harm do not enter our borders.

Despite success in our efforts to destroy ISIS, we know hot spots around the world serve as a breeding ground for radical ideology. That is why expanding our visa security program is paramount.

In 2010, I questioned then-Homeland Security Secretary Napolitano about why the Visa Security Program hadn't been accelerated and emphasized the need to take prompt action to bolster screening capabilities overseas.

It remains a priority today. The Visa Security Program is a vital part of our antiterrorism efforts, and its success is essential because if we are not safe, nothing else matters.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to support this en bloc amendment and the underlying bill.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA).

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of my amendment No. 73 which is included in this en bloc package. My amendment would seek to allocate \$10 million for additional K-9 teams for Customs and Border Protection.

□ 2330

Many legal drugs that come into our country enter through our Nation's port of entries. Last year, CBP seized 3.3 million pounds of narcotics. Trained canine teams were keys to these successes. Yet when it comes to canine teams, U.S. border authorities are severely understaffed.

I thank my colleagues for including my amendment in this package.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA).

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

The amendment I am offering today highlights a critical security concern that must be addressed in order to keep the American people safe. Over the past several years, terrorists in Europe and around the world have added vehicular attacks to their deadly arsenal. From Paris to Barcelona and Jerusalem to London, terrorists have rented trucks and vans to commit horrible attacks, leaving hundreds dead and countless seriously injured.

While the United States has yet to experience an attack on the scale of those that have occurred in Europe, we must do everything in our power to make sure that the individuals who do us harm do not eventually slip through the cracks.

I believe the U.S. Department of Homeland Security should have the discretion to use its funds to explore partnerships with van and truck rental companies so that background checks may be conducted for individuals attempting to procure these vehicles. This amendment is a first step towards recognizing and addressing the potential vulnerability of American citizens to these terrible attacks.

It is my hope that I continue to work with the chairman as well as the Committee on Homeland Security to pursue legislative measures that will address the vehicular attacks and actions so that we can guard against them.

I thank the chairman, the ranking member, and my colleagues for their support.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE).

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Mr. Chairman, I rise today to support my amendment, which is included in this en bloc amendment, that would add \$20 million for the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response grants, also better known as SAFER grants. These are critical grants that basically help keep communities safe.

Right now, in my hometown of Flint and in Saginaw, just up the road, we have 48 additional firefighters solely because of these grants. During the recess, I was able to go to these fire stations, sit down especially with the new firefighters that have been hired, and talk to them about what it means for them to serve our community and to see some of the new equipment that they are able to have. This makes our communities safer.

It is particularly special to me because my grandfather was a fire chief. He was actually the first fire chief of Flint Township. I learned about service to community by seeing what he did to protect the community that we grew up in.

This program supports safety in those communities. Without it, our citizens are less safe. I am pleased that this amendment was included in the en bloc amendment, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentlewoman from California, and I thank the manager of this bill, Judge CARTER from Texas, for including my amendment in the en bloc amendment. Let me explain it very simply.

My amendment would help facilitate the Secretary of Homeland Security from being limited in their discretion for the utilization and enhancement of the use of Federal air marshals on inbound international flights considered to be high risk by the Department of Homeland Security.

My amendment ensures that the Federal Air Marshal Service effectively uses its funds to deploy personnel on inbound flights that are considered high risk by the Department of Homeland Security and that there is no limit on that ability.

I believe that Federal air marshals are the last line of defense in some instances in defending the cockpit and aircraft cabin against terrorist attacks. We know that airlines, airplanes, aviation still remains a very attractive target, as evidenced over the years, by terrorists.

As the former chairwoman of the Transportation Security Committee, I have worked over the years and sponsored legislation to ensure we had enough air marshals who receive all the requisite training to effectively secure aircraft.

Let me say that all of our individuals are important to the Department of Homeland Security. I ask my colleagues to support this amendment. I thank my colleagues for putting it in the en bloc, and I ask for its support.

Mr. Chair, let me thank Subcommittee Chairman CARTER and Ranking Member ROYBAL-ALLARD for their leadership on this important legislation and for the opportunity to explain my amendment.

Thank you for this opportunity to explain my amendment, which simply prohibits any funds in the Homeland Appropriations Act from being used to limit the discretion of the Secretary of Homeland Security to enhance the use of Federal air marshals on inbound international flights considered to be high risk by the Department of Homeland Security.

My amendment ensures that the Federal Air Marshal Service effectively uses its funds to deploy personnel on inbound flights that are considered high risk by the Department of Homeland Security and that there is no limitation on that ability.

I believe that Federal Air Marshals are the last line of defense in defending the cockpit and aircraft cabin against terrorist attack.

As the former Chair and a current member of Homeland Security Transportation Security Subcommittee, I have worked over the years and sponsored legislation to ensure that we have enough air marshals and that they receive all the requisite training to effectively secure aircraft.

To best protect our Nation from terroristic threat it is of extreme importance that we use

the necessary funds to support the use of Federal Air Marshals on inbound international flights.

Make no mistake—the threat to our aviation system from aircraft inbound to the United States from foreign airports is serious and dangerous.

Following the capture and killing of Osama Bin Laden, intelligence was gathered that suggests that Al Qaeda still has an interest in attacking the U.S., likely through transportation modes.

This fact, coupled with the numerous suspicious activities even on domestic aircraft where passengers were attempting to open cabin doors in flight or otherwise disrupt flights, is of concern.

While my amendment deals with the threat on inbound aircraft to the U.S., its ultimate impact will be to ensure that air marshals are assigned to the highest-risk flights.

It simply prohibits funds from being used to limit the discretion Secretary of Homeland Security to enhance air marshal coverage on inbound high-risk flights in accordance with the Department's risk model.

The terroristic threats are ever changing and we must allow the Secretary of Homeland Security to make the necessary adjustments to protect the American people.

This is not a funding issue or people issue, rather a security issue and this amendment is budget neutral.

Let me thank those who at the Department of Homeland Security and its component agencies for their service, including my friends at the Transportation Security Administration.

Let me thank all Federal Air Marshals for their service to our nation.

I ask my colleagues to support Jackson Lee Amendment No. 89.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. TORRES).

Mrs. TORRES. Mr. Chairman, I rise to offer my amendment to this appropriations bill.

Section 235(b) of the INA requires that any individual who arrives at a U.S. port of entry and asks to apply for asylum must be granted an interview with an asylum officer. That is the law. It does not say our borders are open, but it does say that we do not turn away asylum seekers at our borders.

However, in recent months, NGOs have documented many cases where Customs and Border Protection officials have turned away asylum seekers at ports of entry. These actions are clearly prohibited by section 235(b).

My amendment would simply prevent any use of funds to violate section 235(b). Our taxpayer dollars should not be used to break the law.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mr. DONOVAN).

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the Delaney-Donovan amendment to restore funding for three vital laboratories operated by the Department of Homeland Security's Science and Technology Directorate: the National Biodefense Analysis and Countermeasures Center, the Chemical

Security Analysis Center, and the National Urban Security Technology Laboratory. These laboratories work to counter biological and chemical threats and support our Nation's first responders.

I have had the opportunity, Mr. Chairman, to visit NUSTL, located in New York City, which, since 2009, has been serving as the testing and evaluation laboratory for the first responder community. Additionally, NUSTL acts as a technical adviser and performs research and development. I have seen the remarkable resources NUSTL provides to our first responders and how closing it would greatly impact first responders' capabilities.

Given the current threat environment, now is not the time to be cutting Federal resources to counter chemical and biological threats and support of our first responders.

I appreciate the very difficult job Chairman CARTER and members of the Appropriations Committee had in crafting the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations bill. I appreciate their working with me and Mr. DELANEY to ensure these vital labs receive funding.

As the chairman of the Committee on Homeland Security's Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications, which has oversight of the Science and Technology Directorate, I urge all Members to support this amendment.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendments en bloc offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER).

The en bloc amendments were agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 63 OFFERED BY MS. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM OF NEW MEXICO

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 63 printed in part B of House Report 115-295.

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 635, line 9, after the first dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000)".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 500, the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New Mexico.

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Chair, my amendment prioritizes funding to study the treatment of detainees and the conditions of private immigration detention centers.

ICE is increasing apprehensions and putting immigrant communities at

higher risk of apprehension, detention, and deportation. At the same time, the Trump administration has lowered detention standards when signing contracts with private facilities. This has led to the highest number of deaths in ICE custody since 2011.

We have seen a complete disregard for civil and constitutional rights of detainees, many of whom are torn from their families without basic due process protections. These facilities are not holding prisoners. They are holding asylum seekers who risked everything to start a better life. They are holding hardworking community members. They are holding family members: mothers, fathers, and children.

Information regarding detention facilities is already inconsistent, outdated, and, frankly, overall lacking in transparency. Medical neglect, poor treatment by guards, sexual abuse, and even in-custody deaths plague numerous facilities across the country. Even worse, repeat offending private prison companies continue to receive lucrative contracts for additional facilities.

We have to have an objective and transparent review of these private immigration detention centers. I urge my colleagues to join me in voting “yes” for my amendment to ensure that detainees are treated humanely and provided basic due process protections.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 66 OFFERED BY MS. JAYAPAL

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 66 printed in part B of House Report 115-295.

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 635, line 9, after the first dollar amount insert “(increased by \$10,000,000)”.

Page 636, line 17, after the dollar amount insert “(increased by \$30,000,000)”.

Page 643, line 11, after the first dollar amount insert “(reduced by \$535,184,000)”.

Page 643, line 15, after the dollar amount insert “(reduced by \$535,184,000)”.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 500, the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. JAYAPAL) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Washington.

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Chairman, my amendment will eliminate \$535 million in new funding for ICE officers and provide \$30 million to the DHS Office of Inspector General and \$10 million to the Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties. Simply put, my amendment makes it clear that we must increase oversight and accountability over the Department of Homeland Security.

Reports of unlawful turnbacks of asylum seekers have only increased. The

May 2017 Human Rights First report, “Crossing the Line,” flagged 125 incidents where asylum seekers were denied full access to the process. Just last month, the American Immigration Council and others filed a class action lawsuit challenging CBP’s continued practice of turning back asylum seekers requesting protection at ports of entry.

The Trump administration’s anti-immigrant rhetoric and policy appear to have emboldened the CBP practice. CBP personnel also reportedly stated: “Donald Trump just signed new laws saying there is no asylum for anyone . . .”

We have also heard reports of CBP turning away asylum seekers through threats, coercion, and intimidation. CBP reportedly threatened to take away asylum seekers’ children unless they left the port of entry and let loose dogs unless they exited the port of entry.

We have also heard CBP turning away asylum seekers through verbal and physical abuse. CBP reportedly threw an asylum seeker’s 6-year-old daughter to the ground and knocked a transgender asylum seeker to the floor and then stepped on her neck.

These are not only unconscionable, Mr. Chairman, they may violate U.S. and international law. They violate the Immigration and Nationality Act, which guarantees the right of an individual present within the United States or arriving at a U.S. port of entry to apply for asylum.

Also, they may violate the principle of non-refoulement, articulated in the 1951 Refugee Convention and enshrined in U.S. law in the 1967 Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees. This prohibits the return of asylum seekers to a country where their lives or freedom would be threatened on account of protected ground.

Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD), ranking member of the Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee.

□ 2345

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Chairman, I want to express my strong support for the gentlewoman’s amendment. As I said during general debate, the increases of the bill for ICE’s enforcement, detention, and removal operations are excessive. They support an overly aggressive immigration enforcement approach that is tearing apart families and communities, and it is unnecessary for national security or public safety.

The cut to ICE operations in support by this amendment would leave sufficient funding for ICE to carry out its responsibilities humanely and fairly, and the increases the amendment proposes for the Office of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties and the Office of the Inspector General are clearly needed to ensure appropriate oversight of the Department’s activities. I urge my col-

leagues to support the Jayapal amendment.

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Chairman, the proposal to cut ICE funding for enforcement of immigration laws and removal of those here illegally will endanger the safety of the American people and convey to bad actors that the rule of law no longer exists in the United States, leading to increased border crossings and even more illegal aliens in the United States.

Cutting funding for beds will lead to the release of criminal and other removable aliens into communities across the country and weaken the United States border security. I ask you to join me in opposing this amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Chairman, I would like to just remind my colleagues again that ICE has plenty of money to carry out their activities. What we are asking for through this amendment is to have some oversight and accountability to make sure that we are not seeing the kind of abuse and turn backs that we have been seeing.

Let me just remind my colleagues of the grave and critical need on one level to address sexual assault and abuse in detention.

Between May 2014 and July 2016, the Office of the Inspector General received, at minimum, 1,016 reports of sexual abuse and detention. In other words, they received more than one complaint of sexual abuse each day over the course of 26 months. According to CIVIC, a detention watchdog, only 2.4 percent of those complaints were investigated.

So I could go on, Mr. Chairman, but I think what this amendment is trying to say is we desperately need to ensure that we use the funds that we are appropriating here, the funds that we are taking away, in order to make sure that we have accountability for the Department of Homeland Security, and to make sure, for example, that when we have Prison Rape Elimination Act regulations to prevent sexual assault in immigration detention, that we have adequate funding to the Department of Homeland Security’s Civil Rights and Civil Liberties department so that they can carry out the audits to ensure that immigration detention facilities are in compliance with those regulations.

Mr. Chairman, I hope that my colleagues will accept that we still are going to have plenty of money for ICE to do its job, but we want to make sure we have accountability.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. JAYAPAL).

The amendment was rejected.

AMENDMENT NO. 70 OFFERED BY MR. FITZPATRICK

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 70 printed in part B of House Report 115-295.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 636, line 17, after the dollar amount insert the following: “(increased by \$25,600,000)”.

Page 681, line 7, after the dollar amount insert the following: “(reduced by \$33,000,000)”.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 500, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FITZPATRICK) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself 1 minute.

Mr. Chairman, my amendment restores critical funding to the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Inspector General to ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of DHS operations. Without this amendment, the OIG will have to reduce its workforce, significantly impairing its ability to complete its mission that everyone on this floor can agree is vital to our national security.

Mr. Chairman, these women and men work tirelessly to conduct audits, inspections, and investigations that combat fraud, waste, and abuse in one of our Nation's most critical agencies. With over 147 reports, 370 actions recommended, and 836 investigations, DHS OIG has proven to be not only worthy of every penny, but also a place where dollars spent turn into dollars saved.

I am proud to be surrounded by colleagues on the House Homeland Security Committee who join me in supporting the mission of the OIG, and I urge all of my colleagues to vote for this amendment, which is crucial to our national security.

Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. HIGGINS).

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Representative FITZPATRICK's amendment, which would restore necessary funds to the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Inspector General, to ensure that DHS is being run in the most accountable and cost-efficient way possible.

I am in full support of the increases we have made to both Defense and Homeland Security spending. However, it is imperative that the programs administered by these agencies be operated in a transparent manner that ensures the responsible expenditure of the people's treasure.

In its most recent semiannual report, OIG reported that it recovered \$77.8 million from its audits and investigations and identified \$32 million in questionable cost. OIG investigations during this time also resulted in 86 arrests, 128 indictments, 55 convictions, and 19 personnel actions. This is a needed amendment, and I encourage my colleagues to support it and vote “yes.”

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mr. DONOVAN).

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Chairman, first, I would like to thank Subcommittee Chairman CARTER and Ranking Member ROYBAL-ALLARD, along with the House Homeland Security Committee and all their staff for the hard work on this amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I am proud to rise in support of the amendment offered by my colleague and friend, Mr. FITZPATRICK. The amendment restores critical funding to the DHS Office of Inspector General so it could meet its statutory mission.

As a subcommittee chairman who oversees components of DHS, my duty is to first get the Department the resources it needs, and secondly, ensure these resources are used honestly and efficiently. DHS Office of Inspection General helps protect our resources by rooting out fraud, waste, and abuse by investigating and prosecuting misfeasance and by exposing process inefficiencies. I respectfully request that my colleagues support Mr. FITZPATRICK's good government amendment.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. ESTES).

Mr. ESTES of Kansas. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of Representative FITZPATRICK's amendment. My career in the private sector required skills in identifying deficiencies in systems and processes.

When I look at the program, or lack thereof, with the financial systems modernization effort, beset by poor management and lack of transparency, my last course of action would be to throw more money at it.

Good systems require a good plan. Currently there is no plan, no path forward, and no guarantee to the taxpayers that this money is well spent. This effort has already cost \$133 million, 50 percent more than originally expected, and it has failed to accomplish the designated task.

When I go back to Kansas, I am accountable to every taxpaying constituent for every dollar spent in Washington. Therefore, I support this amendment to shift those tax dollars from this inefficient program to the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Inspector General, which protects those very same tax dollars.

This money will provide operating funds to continue funding efficiencies and savings until a good plan is developed for the Financial Services Modernization effort.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment and fiscal accountability to the American taxpayer.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FITZPATRICK).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 71 OFFERED BY MR. CASTRO OF TEXAS

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 71 printed in part B of House Report 115-295.

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 640, line 24, insert after the dollar amount the following: “(increased by \$5,000,000) (reduced by \$5,000,000)”.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 500, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CASTRO) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, the underlying bill provides \$5 million for the CBP Camera Technology Initiative. My amendment would simply double the funding for this initiative by providing an additional \$5 million for a total of \$10 million.

In 2015, CBP released the findings of a yearlong body-worn camera feasibility study, concluding that body-worn cameras would have “positive benefits.”

The study found numerous benefits, including enhanced training capabilities through the utilization of footage as a learning tool; strengthened officer and agent performance and accountability; reduced hostilities between officers/agents and citizens; a reduction in the number of allegations and complaints; and increased officer and agent safety by influencing public behavior.

Law enforcement agencies across the country are quickly adopting body-worn camera technology because they see similar benefits. However, body-worn cameras are expensive, so it is necessary to provide additional resources for CBP to deploy the technology more effectively and in greater numbers.

We need to ensure that we outfit as many Border Patrol agents with body cameras as we can for the current 19,000 agents, as well as the additional 5,000 Border Patrol agents this bill would provide for.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.



Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Chairman, my good friend from Texas, I know his heart is in the right place, but I have real concerns about the cost and the utilization of body cameras.

We know that you have to preserve evidence. And once you have opened this door that there are expected to be body cameras on officers, then not only do you have to preserve every piece of film or production that comes out of that camera as a potential piece of evidence, and if you take that and multiply it times the number of incidents that are going to occur as we go through a year, and then multiply that times however many years this agency lasts, you are talking about storing millions of gigs or whatever they are that have to be preserved to preserve potential evidence that could be used both by the defense and the prosecution.

And then in a case where there isn't a body camera, it is going to be a jury argument that can be very effectively made by the defense about why isn't there a body camera where there is a policy of having body cameras?

□ 0000

But the real issue that I have with this is the cost of preserving the record continuously by law enforcement. I think people haven't thought this out to what kind of additional cost this is going to be as you spread this out over the lifetime of an agency and all the agents that work for that agency.

I know the reasons why people think body cameras are a good idea, and they fit that. But does it justify the storage cost that is going to be required to preserve the evidence that is manufactured by the body camera?

That is the question I think we ought to consider, and that is the reason I oppose this amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Chairman, earlier this year, DHS Secretary John Kelly told the Congressional Hispanic Caucus that he did not oppose requiring agents to wear body cameras, as long as Congress provides the necessary funding. My amendment would do just that.

There are tremendous safety and accountability benefits to having video records of law enforcement interactions with the public, both for law enforcement officers and for the public.

I would note that a few years ago, when we debated body cameras for law enforcement, at that time, the majority accepted my amendment to increase body camera funding for law enforcement officers by \$10 million. In fact, my hometown of San Antonio, I believe, now every patrol officer is outfitted with a body camera.

I respect the chairman's concerns about the cost of storage, but I would ask the chairman and my colleagues to consider the fact that the cost of storage, this \$10 million, is a small cost when we are talking about people's

lives. That could be the lives of the agents themselves or the lives of people that they interact with in the public.

Law enforcement, by and large—putting aside CBP agents for now, police departments across the country have accepted this technology as not only the thing of the future, but the thing of the present, what they are using now.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I understand what my colleague wants: the 45,000 agents that could potentially be acquiring these cameras. Because the first thing you are going to have the first time you go before a judge and you use one of these body cameras in one case, the defense is going to be wanting to know why you are not using them in every case. They are going to be setting up a defense of the fact that the officers failed to meet their duty to preserve the record.

So you take just 45,000 and 1 year of contacts. Granted, his \$10 million isn't going to get all of those guys cameras, but you started down the road to putting a camera on 45,000 agents. And then you have to store everything they produce of any contact that they have for the potential use in evidence by one or the other side in a legal proceeding. That is what concerns me.

Joe Kelly is a good marine and a good Secretary, and I am sorry he is not with us anymore. But the reality is, if you sat in the courtroom and watched the preservation of evidence, you know this has the potential, both for law enforcement and for us, to be a mushroom that explodes in nuclear proportions. That is the only reason I raise this issue.

I know the issues that they are trying to address, and they need to be addressed. I am concerned about the fact that once you start down that road, you are constitutionally required to preserve evidence, and that will be costly. I will leave that up to our colleagues as to how they feel about that.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Chairman, how much time do I have remaining?

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Texas (Mr. CASTRO) has 2 minutes remaining.

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Chairman, again, I understand those concerns. But just as we have cameras here, so that the public can listen to every word that is being said in this Chamber, it is important that when law enforcement officers, including CBP officers, are interacting with the public—and that includes many U.S. citizens, not just immigrants who are coming across the border or folks who are coming across checkpoints, but United States citizens and legal residents. And for the sake of the agents, who may also have false accusations made against them, that is why this is important. Because there are sometimes accusations that are made that can be rebutted by this evidence.

The American people, just as they want this process to be transparent, they want that process to also be transparent with as much accountability as possible. And for the United States Congress not to move forward with that and commit what is really a poultry sum of \$10 million and show a willingness to do that, I think is ignoring what most of the American people want.

As I mentioned before, I worked with the San Antonio Police Department. They came to me and said: Will you help us get these body cameras?

We put in a request for a grant. We got \$1 million to cover the officers who were on patrol. I have not heard in San Antonio a complaint from those officers about body cameras. And studies have shown that, as I mentioned, it has reduced the tension between law enforcement officers and the public.

I respect the gentleman, and I understand the arguments, but I think that, on a whole, this is a matter of transparency, accountability, and people's lives, and we ought to do this.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I only want to lay out that there is a potential very large cost once this door is opened. That is my opposition to this.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CASTRO).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 74 OFFERED BY MS. ROYBAL-ALLARD

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 74 printed in part B of House Report 115-295.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 643, line 11, after the first dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$849,500,000)”.

Page 643, line 15, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$849,500,000)”.

Page 647, line 2, after the first dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$849,500,000)”.

Page 647, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$849,500,000)”.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 500, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Chairman, my amendment would increase

funding for the Coast Guard's polar icebreaker program by \$850 million. The amendment is offset by a reduction to the funding for ICE's interior immigration enforcement.

The increases for ICE hiring and detention beds are not well justified and do not have a security focus. In contrast, the need for heavy icebreakers is very well documented.

A recent report from the National Academy of Sciences warned that "the United States has insufficient assets to protect its interests, implement U.S. policy, execute its laws, and meet its obligations in the Arctic and Antarctica because it lacks adequate icebreaking capability."

Mr. Chairman, this vulnerability exists because, currently, the Coast Guard has only one functioning heavy icebreaker, the Polar Star. Built in 1976, it is well past its 30-year expected operational life. It no longer has the reliability we need, and the cost to maintain it will continue to rise.

Currently, its primary mission is to clear a path through the ice to our research facilities in Antarctica. This means the only icebreaking asset we have in the Arctic is the Coast Guard's only medium class icebreaker, the Healy.

The Polar Star is expected to continue functioning for just 3 to 7 years. This will leave the United States with no heavy icebreaking capability.

We are dangerously falling behind. Russia has 41 icebreakers focused on the Arctic that are active or under construction, four of which are heavy icebreakers. This puts the United States at a tremendous disadvantage, since we are unable to operate in parts of the Arctic Ocean for months at a time.

□ 0010

The National Academy of Sciences report goes on to recommend that: "The United States Congress should fund the construction of four polar icebreakers of common design that would be owned and operated by the United States Coast Guard."

Mr. Chair, the fiscal year 2017 defense funding bill included \$150 million for a Coast Guard heavy icebreaker as a downpayment on what is expected to be a nearly \$1 billion price tag for the first ship. However, the National Defense Authorization Act the House passed earlier this year includes a provision prohibiting the Pentagon from using any fiscal year 2018 funds to acquire an icebreaker for the Coast Guard. An amendment to strike that provision failed on a recorded vote. The solution is to fund the next installment of funds directly through the Coast Guard.

While the Coast Guard plans to sign an icebreaker acquisition contract in fiscal year 2019, it will release a request for proposal in mid-fiscal year 2018.

By providing \$850 billion in this bill, enough to cover the cost of one icebreaker, we could help the Coast Guard get the shipbuilding started. Just

think what we could accomplish here today. With this one amendment, we can put the United States on a path to securing our sovereign interests in the Arctic region.

We cannot afford to delay any further. I urge my colleagues to vote for this amendment.

Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment offered by Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Chair, the proposal to cut ICE funding for enforcement of immigration laws and removal of those here illegally will not only endanger the safety of the American people, it will also convey to bad actors that the rule of law no longer exists in the United States, leading to increased border crossings and a growing overall illegal alien population.

Cutting funding for beds will lead to the release of criminal and other removable aliens into communities across the country and weaken the United States border security.

The hiring of additional ICE agents is needed to protect our communities by preventing terrorism and reducing crime through the vigorous enforcement of immigration and custom laws. Restricting this hiring compromises ICE's law enforcement mission, jeopardizing homeland security and public safety.

Interior immigration enforcement is indispensable to national security and public safety. It cannot be separated from border security. A successful border control and immigration system must be supported by the enforcement of all pertinent laws.

Adding funds to procure another polar icebreaker, while a noble idea, is simply not practical at this time. The Coast Guard is still in the early stages of design and will not be ready to procure the first icebreaker until late fiscal year 2019 at the earliest. The funds will be unexecutable and, therefore, a waste of limited resources that we have.

In addition, if you discuss with the border patrol about the biggest deterrent we have, it is the threat of detention.

Mr. Chair, I ask that my colleagues join me in opposing this amendment.

Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Chairman, I just want to emphasize the fact that my amendment still leaves ICE with enough money for 30,000 detention beds. They still have the capability to address the needs in their duties.

I also want to emphasize the fact that although the money is not going to go out in fiscal year 2019, the request for proposal will be in mid-fiscal year 2018; therefore, it is critical that those who will be bidding on these contracts know that, in fact, there is money available.

Finally, I just need to emphasize one more time the fact that we are extremely vulnerable in the Arctic at this time. There are times, as I said, where we have absolutely no presence whatsoever, while at the same time, Russia has a continuous presence in that area.

Mr. Chair, it is critical that we support this amendment and get the Coast Guard the icebreaker that they need.

The Acting CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I, too, agree with Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD for the need for an icebreaker, that is not in dispute here, but to cut the beds to the proposed 30,000 that she said, in 2017, our number was 39,000 and change, and we have been over that this year, so we still have a real need for these beds, and that need, as I have stated before, is why I oppose this amendment.

Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 75 OFFERED BY MR. CASTRO OF TEXAS

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 75 printed in part B of House Report 115-295.

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 643, line 11, insert after the first dollar amount the following: "(increased by \$10,000,000) (reduced by (\$10,000,000))".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 500, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CASTRO) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chair, in its report accompanying this bill, the Appropriations Committee states that: "ICE is currently evaluating the use of body-worn cameras for potential use in its field enforcement activities, and notes that such cameras can be important tools for both holding law enforcement personnel accountable and for exonerating officers accused of wrongdoing."

My amendment would support ICE's use of body-worn cameras by providing \$10 million exclusively for ICE to deploy this technology.

The citizens of this country have come to expect law enforcement officers to wear body cameras even when

enforcing immigration laws, and law enforcement agencies throughout the country are quickly adopting this technology.

Body-worn cameras are widely supported, because they are important tools that improve officer interactions with the public, deescalate conflicts, and improve public trust in law enforcement, but this tool is expensive, so we need to provide the resources ICE needs to get its program up and running.

The \$10 million in this amendment mirrors the amount of money I am requesting for border patrol agent cameras.

Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment offered by Mr. CASTRO.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Chair, I made the statement previously when we discussed this that this could quickly escalate. We are escalating again by 19,000 more people who would ultimately be required to have cameras.

Once again, without getting into what I just talked about, this is going to be a very costly item. We have something called chain of custody on evidence. ICE agents deal with some very serious issues, felony issues under Federal law. They have got a wide jurisdiction, one of the widest jurisdictions of any agency, even wider than some like the FBI.

So, once again, now that chain of custody on that camera, where that camera information passes from hand to hand, has to be kept in addition to the evidence so that if you are going to present it in court, you can prove the chain of custody. You just enhanced and expanded the amount of costs that it is going to take for an agent to go to trial.

I know this is a very popular idea all over the country, because it has been very much supported by the media, but I really, in good faith, believe that people have not considered the evidentiary problems they are going to create for themselves by the presence of these cameras.

□ 0020

We will find out fairly quickly as these cameras proliferate what the cost is going to be and what the information required is going to be by the courts. And maybe I am overanticipating, but just now, we have gone from \$44,000; we have added another \$19,000, just in our agency. Now, multiply that times every law enforcement entity in the United States and it becomes an astronomical expense and something we need to think about, and think about hard.

So, for those reasons, not because I don't think it is a good idea to have congeniality between arresting officer and defendant or being able to prove where there is abuse. I agree with all those things.

But I think you are creating a monster evidentiarywise as you go forward with body cameras. We tried them back in the seventies, and they very quickly found that they were not a good idea, but I guess we will try them again.

Anyway, for those reasons, I oppose the gentleman's amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Again, Mr. Chairman, this is an issue, fundamentally, of transparency and accountability; and the argument that I hear coming from the other side is that this is an evidentiary issue and that it is going to be too much of a hassle, so we don't want to hear or see what is in these cameras or on this video. That cannot be a responsible approach to law enforcement or to our judicial system.

I am asking in this amendment for \$10 million. We spend more in furniture in this Chamber, in this House of Representatives, than the amount of money that I am requesting in this amendment. We spend more on Member travel every year than the amount of money that I am requesting in this amendment to make sure that both agents and the public are safer.

Let me give you an example, one example of what body cameras recently found in Baltimore, Maryland.

An officer was seen on camera, a body camera recorded an officer planting drugs that he then pretended to find on a suspect. A week later, another officer was also found to be planting evidence. Are we saying tonight that the American people and our judicial system don't want to see that evidence because of some storage problem?

And, by the way, technology and the cloud have made storage a lot cheaper, so I think that information is outdated. The argument on that side is outdated.

To vote "no," to recommend against this amendment, is to say that we are going to see no evil, hear no evil, and we are, instead, going to let both agents who may face false accusations, as they did, I'm sure, in the 1960s and 1970s and 1980s and 1990s, and others who were victims of the use of force in the 1970s, we are just going to turn a blind eye and continue that practice.

That cannot be the policy of this Congress. That is not the future of the American judicial system and our policing system.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Well, I certainly understand the example that the gentleman gave about officers planting dope, and it certainly did work.

I can tell you, in my 20 years on the bench, we have had cameras on the dashboard of DPS troopers' cars for 10 years, 20 years maybe, I don't know, maybe the whole time I was there. But I have seen at least 15 of those prove the guilt of the defendant by his actions in front of those cameras. So it is not just to catch dirty cops; it also catches people in criminal action.

By the way, the action of that officer was a criminal action so, therefore, you have to preserve the evidence. My point is made by your very argument. You have to preserve the evidence. If you lose the evidence, you are going to lose the prosecution, and so you are going to have to keep it secure. If it passes from one hand to the other hand, it has to be tracked in a chain of custody.

If it is secure on the—there is going to have to be some evidence of the security of whatever web or whatever it is that it is on, or the cloud, that that is a secure cloud so that someone can't have messed with the evidence while it is on the cloud. All of that is potential argument against conviction in a criminal case, and those ICE agents deal with serious criminal cases.

I don't think people have thought it out. If they have, then that is fine. Let's spend that money. But it is going to be astronomical if we do it for every law enforcement agent in the country.

I continue my opposition, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Chairman, how much time do I have remaining?

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman has 1½ minutes remaining.

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. People's lives are at stake. When we talk about policing practices and transparency, accountability, the use of body cameras, these things have made people safer in their communities. They have made law enforcement safer.

The concern about what could happen or what might happen, this technology is already being widely used among police officers and police departments across the country. The chairman gave the example of the Department of Public Safety using dash cams.

Dash cams have been used on law enforcement vehicles for a long time, and that did not break the bank of the State of Texas. The State of Texas has a \$10 billion rainy day fund right now, a surplus.

\$10 million, which is what this amendment requests, is a small amount of money compared to the amount of money that we spend on furniture in this place. Are we saying that we don't want to discover whether somebody is planting evidence or whether somebody is making a false accusation against an ICE agent who is just trying to do his or her job, that, instead, we are going to turn a blind eye to that because we would rather spend it on leather seats or Member travel or something else?

This is the future. These cameras are going to be used at some point by Border Patrol, by ICE, by law enforcement. As I said, law enforcement stepped forward and requested my assistance in getting money for body cameras in San Antonio, and so I hope that my colleagues will find it in themselves to support this amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. I continue to oppose, and I yield back the balance of my time.



The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CASTRO).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 76 OFFERED BY MR. CORREA

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 76 printed in part B of House Report 115-295.

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 643, line 11, after the first dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$100,000,000)”.

Page 646, line 3, after the first dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$100,000,000)”.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 500, the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of this amendment, which seeks to allocate \$100 million to procure additional ships for our Coast Guard to interdict drugs headed to the United States by sea.

Last year was a record-breaking year for the U.S. Coast Guard in its fight against drug trafficking. It seized 416,000 pounds of cocaine worth almost \$6 billion. This was the result of more than 250 individual interdictions in the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and eastern Pacific Ocean.

Even with this record-breaking year, however, all of the cocaine that was seized represents less than 10 percent of all attempted shipments; and, of course, cocaine interdictions, cocaine shipments, are on the rise.

I do commend the men and women of the U.S. Coast Guard for the great work they do to stop drug trafficking to our country, yet the Coast Guard lacks the resources to stop the known drug shipments into our mainland.

□ 0030

During a Homeland Security hearing this year, the U.S. Coast Guard commandant admiral, and I paraphrase him, said: Last year there were almost 600 events that we just did not have enough ships or enough planes to track or stop them in the seas. The admiral said: There were almost 600 shipments in the high seas. They knew these ships were carrying drugs, yet we did not have the ships or the assets to stop them.

Vice Admiral Charles Ray went further to say: We need more cutters on the water to help us do our job.

The Coast Guard, like many other government agencies, has endured

tough budget situations over the years, and they need to replace and add new ships to fulfill their drug interdiction mission. This \$100 million would allow the Coast Guard to procure two additional fast-response cutters.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to support my amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Chair, once again, as I said before of the gentleman's amendment cutting beds, that that will weaken the United States' border security, and the hiring of additional ICE agents is needed to protect our communities, prevent terrorism, reduce crime through vigorous enforcement of immigration and customs laws.

Successful border control and immigration systems must be supported by enforcement of pertinent laws. This bill recommends \$240 million for four fast-response cutters, the same as the amount requested. The program is on schedule and on budget, and there is no need to accelerate the procurement of additional ships. We have been building those on time without flaws now for 4 years at that same rate. We are building a lot of fast-response cutters very quickly.

We have, now, a new program for the offshore patrol cutter, which the first of the contracts have been let, and that is in the process of being built, and we have a projection for multiple of those cutters.

Taking away from our ability to detain people who have broken the law is not a good resource for growing a program that is already very robust and very effective and has put online multiple fast-response cutters.

Mr. Chair, for those reasons, I oppose this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Chairman, I would say that, on the contrary, this money, this allocation of \$100 million, represents additional support for our border security, our high seas.

Back in my district, like across the country, we have a major spike, an increase, in drug overdoses, deaths as a result of drug overdoses. Our children are being harmed by these drugs that are coming into our country. Our Coast Guard, our admirals of the Coast Guard, are saying this is where the chinks in the armor are in terms of our national defense of our country, of our borders, the high seas. This is not speculation; these are facts.

Ships are coming into our high seas loaded with drugs. We do not have the assets to stop them. Nothing could be further from the truth. On the contrary, this \$100 million, an additional two ships for the Coast Guard, represents tons and tons of drugs to be intercepted in the years to come, billions and billions of dollars stopped before they reach our land.

Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Chair, even if this money should be moved and the gentleman's amendment be approved, it wouldn't mean that any more fast-response cutters would be built in this calendar year.

I am fairly certain that the commandant of the Coast Guard would say that we have been very robust and very effective at producing fast-response cutters, and I believe that the detention beds is a deterrent for those coming across the border and for those violating the law as an important part of the defense of the borders and the people of the United States.

Therefore, I continue to oppose the amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Chairman, again I would say that those folks that are piloting those ships full of drugs coming into our country do not deserve the opportunity to reach our shores. We have to stop them in the high seas.

Just a few months ago, the Coast Guard was proposed for budget cuts. Now they are barely—barely—keeping balance, meaning no budget cuts. All I want to do with this amendment is give them additional resources to stop drug shipments, known drug shipments, on the high seas before they reach our shores.

Mr. Chair, I don't want to go back to California and say that I am not doing everything we can do to stop those drugs from reaching our children.

Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 77 OFFERED BY MR. HUNTER

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 77 printed in part B of House Report 115-295.

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 646, line 3, after the first dollar amount insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000)”.

Page 647, line 12, after the dollar amount insert “(increased by \$5,000,000)”.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 500, the gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Chairman, my amendment transfers \$5 million from

the Coast Guard's Operating Expenses account to its Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation account. The intent is to support sea trials for a Jones Act compliant icebreaker so the Coast Guard can determine whether a leased vessel can meet its immediate needs in fulfilling its 11 statutory missions around the globe.

I am going to stop my diatribe here. STEVE SCALISE has a statement. He is in his rehabilitation center, but he actually cared enough to write this. I am going to speak here, and these are his words, not mine:

"I support this amendment that will improve America's strategic, economic, and national security interests in the Arctic. As other countries are advancing their interests in the Arctic, the U.S. continues to lag behind. This amendment makes clear that Congress supports moving forward in identifying options for icebreaking capabilities in the Arctic.

"The Coast Guard has repeatedly stated we need a fleet of icebreakers to maintain the presence necessary in the Arctic and Antarctic to meet and protect U.S. sovereign interests and protect life and property at sea. Currently, the U.S. has two icebreakers—one of which is our Nation's only heavy icebreaker and is over 40 years old. Russia has more than 40 icebreakers, with more under construction.

"As the Arctic becomes increasingly accessible to maritime traffic, tourism, and energy exploration, we cannot continue to defer this much-needed capability—especially at a time when China and Russia are increasing their presence in the Arctic, expanding their icebreaker fleets, and encroaching over the extended U.S. continental shelf.

"I urge support for this amendment that will address this immediate and necessary investment and protect U.S. national security interests."

That is from STEVE SCALISE. Now back to my words.

To help narrow this capability gap between America and our peer competitors, the Coast Guard should examine the lease of icebreakers that could be deployed in the near term.

My subcommittee has held countless hearings on this issue, and I am convinced that a short-term lease of an existing icebreaker is one of the best chances to ensure the Coast Guard can meet its near-term and urgent mission objectives in the Arctic.

Mr. Chair, I urge all Members to support my amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 0040

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Chair, I rise to claim the time in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Chair, I oppose this amendment and so does the Coast Guard. This is not a new issue. It has to do with a particular, underuti-

lized commercial anchor handling tug supply vessel, the Aiviq, which is owned by Edison Chouest Offshore, based in Louisiana.

Over the last few years, the Coast Guard has been repeatedly pushed to lease this vessel. The Coast Guard has repeatedly made it clear that this vessel does not have the capability to adequately fulfill its multimission needs in the Arctic.

The question before us is whether leasing this particular vessel for icebreaking would be a wise use of taxpayers' dollars, and whether it would benefit the Coast Guard more than investments in other priorities.

The Coast Guard needs a heavy icebreaker as soon as possible, but this is not a heavy icebreaker, or even a medium icebreaker. According to the Coast Guard, the Aiviq is underpowered for icebreaking, making it unsuitable for ice rescue operations.

It has an inadequate fuel storage capacity and transit speed, vastly limiting its deployment time. The Aiviq has no helicopter hangar, making it unsuitable for patrol activities, search and rescue operations, and self-rescue. It also has a propulsion system that lacks redundancy and reliability, and it does not have thrusters rated for ice operations.

Beyond the inadequacy of the vessel's base icebreaking capabilities, the current configuration of the vessel is not suited to Coast Guard missions. It would need to be significantly reconfigured at significant costs. The fact that it is a commercial vessel also limits its ability to perform all 11 Coast Guard statutory missions.

For instance, it could not conduct right-of-visit boardings, or engage in freedom of navigation exercises that are critical to protecting U.S. sovereignty. And it would be vulnerable to right-of-visit boarding by foreign warships under international law.

The owner of the Aiviq has proposed a 7-year lease of the vessel, costing \$35 million to \$40 million per year. The cost, however, would be much higher considering the cost of reconfiguration.

While this amendment would not force the Coast Guard to sign a lease for the Aiviq, it seems intended to push the Coast Guard down that path. Taking \$5 million from the operating expenses account for sea trials would detract from the Coast Guard's operational needs.

If the owner of the Aiviq or any other private interests want the Coast Guard to seriously consider the use of their vessels for icebreaking, they should be the ones paying for any ice trials. We should not be making the Coast Guard pay for it, and we should not be pushing the Coast Guard to enter into a lease arrangement that it does not want and that is not a good investment in helping the Coast Guard carry out its critical missions.

Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Chair, how much time is remaining?

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from California has 3 minutes remaining.

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Chair, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER), the chairman.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I have some concerns regarding this amendment. However, I agree there is a gap in our Nation's icebreaking capability, and I strongly support the Coast Guard's icebreaking program. For that reason, I will not oppose this amendment.

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentleman from Texas. The gentlewoman brought up some points about a ship, which I didn't name.

The Coast Guard hasn't built an icebreaker in almost 50 years. We only have one. There is only one Jones Act ship in the entire country. It is the Aiviq, but there is only one. All we say here is that it has to go to be an American-made ship. That is what the Jones Act is.

If we are going to build an icebreaker with U.S. taxpayer dollars, we are going to use an American-made, and American-crewed, and American-steel ship.

Mr. GARAMENDI, the ranking member on my subcommittee, has voted for amendments like this in the past, and he supports amendments like this going forward. Anything that puts Americans to work, that gives us more than the one icebreaker that works for 6 months out of the year, this is a step in that direction.

This is simply for sea trials. This is so that the Coast Guard, because they haven't made an icebreaker in 50 years, they can take one out besides the Healy, which is a medium icebreaker that they operate and ask: Hey, what do we need here? Do we need to expand the bow, expand the stern? How could we make this what we want?

That is all we are doing here, and it is \$5 million.

This is a step in the right direction. Otherwise, we are never going to have an icebreaker. We are not going to be able to compete in the Arctic. It will be energy exploration for Russia and China, and not us because we are not going to be there unless we start right now in this appropriations bill.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to support my amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 78 OFFERED BY MRS. TORRES

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 78 printed in part B of House Report 115-295.

Mrs. TORRES. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 653, strike line 14 and all that follows through line 19.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 500, the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. TORRES) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

Mrs. TORRES. Mr. Chairman, I rise to offer my amendment to Division E of the Make America Secure and Prosperous Appropriations Act.

Immigrant families in my district and across this country are terrified. They are afraid because of the things that President Trump has said and because of the policies that he has proposed.

President Trump has been clear about who he thinks immigrants are. He thinks immigrants are lazy. He thinks immigrants are unskilled. He thinks immigrants are dangerous criminals.

Just yesterday, he ended the DACA program, crushing the dreams of 800,000 talented and courageous young Americans.

He has promised to triple the number of ICE agents to build a deportation force to go into immigrant communities. Under President Obama, ICE was told to focus on detaining and deporting dangerous criminals. But President Trump has told ICE they should go after whomever they can find.

Now, every immigrant without papers is a target, young and old. This is why immigrants are so afraid. Democrats in Congress have been united in standing up against President Trump in his war on American immigrants. We have blocked money for the wall and for his deportation force. But we also need to put some healthy constraints on President Trump's Department of Homeland Security.

My amendment will strike section 209 of Division E, which grants the Secretary of Homeland Security authority to reprogram or transfer funds for the purpose of detaining immigrants prioritized for removal.

President Trump has made his intentions very clear. He wants to deport every one of the 11 million undocumented immigrants in this country no matter what those consequences may be.

With this bill as it is currently written, there is almost no limit how far he can go. Congress must stand up and make clear where we stand.

Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment offered by Mrs. TORRES.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Chair, estimating the required number of operations and detention beds is not exact

science. This reprogramming a party is essential to be able to deal with emergent and critical operation needs, like surges we have seen in 2014 and 2016.

Without sufficient funding for beds, ICE will be forced to release criminal and other illegal aliens into communities across the country and weaken the security of the United States. The proposal to restrict ICE's ability to reprogram funding for detention beds would not only endanger the safety of the American people, but it will also convey to bad actors that the United States will not detain illegal aliens, leading to increased border crossings and growing overall illegal alien operations in the United States.

Therefore, I oppose this amendment and ask my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. TORRES. Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the gentleman's concern for public safety. The reality is that this administration has kept Congress in the dark about immigration policy.

□ 0050

Members have found out about ICE immigration actions in their districts after the fact. The least we can do as Members of Congress is to provide oversight and keep track of how much DHS is spending. There is no question dangerous criminals should be detained and should be deported. ICE will still be able to do that. But if they need more money, they should come to this Congress and tell us why they need this money.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes," and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. TORRES).

The amendment was rejected.

MODIFICATION TO AMENDMENT NO. 79 OFFERED  
BY MR. CARTER OF TEXAS

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that amendment No. 79 printed in part B of House Report 115-295, which was adopted as part of the amendments en bloc, be modified by the modification placed at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the modification.

The Clerk read as follows:

Modification to amendment No. 79 offered by Mr. Latta of Ohio:

Before "dollar amount" insert "first".

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

The Acting CHAIR. The amendment is modified.

AMENDMENT NO. 80 OFFERED BY MR. KING OF IOWA

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 80 printed in part B of House Report 115-295.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk made in order by the rule.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of division E (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. \_\_\_\_\_. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to implement, administer, or enforce the prevailing wage requirements in subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Davis-Bacon Act).

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 500, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. KING) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

MODIFICATION TO AMENDMENT NO. 80 OFFERED  
BY MR. KING OF IOWA

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to modify my amendment with the modification at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the modification.

The Clerk read as follows:

After the words "this Act" insert "or Divisions A, C, D, F, or G"

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Iowa?

There was no objection.

The Acting CHAIR. The amendment is modified.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Iowa.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, this eliminates the funding that would go to Davis-Bacon and enforcing Davis-Bacon, the Federal wage scale that advertises prevailing wage but turns out to be union scale.

We debated this twice earlier this evening. The modification for the edification of the people who might not have picked up on that rolls this Davis-Bacon amendment together with the appropriations component that we will debate tomorrow so there is clarification here on the floor.

I have long been for the repeal of Davis-Bacon. I have made a statement that the Federal Government doesn't have any business dictating to an employer and an employee what they should be able to agree to on wages.

We have been in the construction business for 42 years. We started on our 43rd year this week. We have paid Davis-Bacon wages in most of those years, if not all of those years, and it upsets the efficiency of being able to manage the job, and it interferes with that relationship.

If it is going to be prevailing wages, then let the market decide that. But the studies that we have out there, there is no study that I know of that would show where there is an imposed Davis-Bacon wage scale that it costs less money. It always costs the taxpayers more money to do a particular project.

Our records of these years run between an 8 percent greater than it